

## FACT SHEET

### SPACE ASSISTANCE AND COOPERATION POLICY

#### Introduction

NSDD50

On August 6, 1982, the President signed a directive which establishes U.S. national policy on space assistance and cooperation. This policy directive highlights the substantial lead the U.S. enjoys in a wide variety of technological and space related areas -- a lead which should be maintained when considering and implementing any international activity or transfer. This directive provides general guidance for U.S. space launch assistance; space hardware, software and related technologies assistance; and international space cooperation.

#### Policy Governing Space Launch Assistance

In dealing with requests from foreign governments, international organizations or foreign business entities for assistance in launching foreign spacecraft, the following general policy guidance is provided.

U.S. launch assistance will be available to interested countries, international organizations or foreign business entities for those space projects which are for peaceful purposes and are consistent with U.S. laws and obligations under relevant international agreements and arrangements (such as Intelsat) as determined by the U.S. Government.

#### Policy Governing Space Hardware, and Related Technologies Assistance

In dealing with requests for the transfer of, or other assistance in the field of space hardware, software and related technologies, the following general policy guidance is provided.

Sales of unclassified U.S. space hardware, software, and related technologies for use in foreign space projects will be for peaceful purposes; will be consistent with relevant bilateral and international agreements and arrangements; will serve U.S. objectives for international cooperation in space activities (see the following section); will contain restrictions on third country transfers; will favor transfers of hardware over transfers of technology; will not adversely affect U.S. national security, foreign policy, or trade interests through diffusion of technology in which the U.S. has international leadership; and will continue to be subject to the export control process. The Department of State will chair an interagency coordinating group when it becomes necessary to consider bilateral agreements which cover the transfer of space hardware, software, and related technologies.

APPROVED 1-16-87

Objectives of International Cooperation  
in Space Activities

The broad objectives of the United States in international cooperation in space activities are to protect national security; promote foreign policy considerations; advance national science and technology; and maximize national economic benefits, including domestic considerations. the suitability of each cooperative space activity must be judged within the framework of all these objectives.